

Minutes
Highland Community Collaboration Council
Bland, Bristol City, Russell, Smyth, Washington and Wythe
Virtual Meeting
September 11, 2023 (Monday)
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions

Charles opened the meeting at 9:30 and members introduced themselves. Charles asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. There were 33 members in attendance today. 23-virtual.

- Check in: Brief introductions for all attendees.

Old Business:

- Review and approval of Draft meeting notes from the August 14, 2023 HCCC meeting. Gary motioned and Jennifer seconded the motion. All in favor. The August minutes are approved.

Guest Speakers:

- Ginny Moorer and Crystal Glass – Mt. Rogers: Recovery in Art and C.H.A.T.S. program. Started Fall 2020 with a discussion about those with barriers to MH services. Promotes protective factors. Started at the Lincoln Theatre. The tools have been well received and promotes connection. Challenges assumptions. Coming into conversations with curiosity. Helps in awkward situations. Look at it from a third chair perspective. It is done in a fun way. Connecting Humans and Telling Stories. They walked the group through an exercise. Visualize a card from the deck. Prompted to share. Helps to develop stronger connections. Contact ginny.moorer@mountrogers.org for more information.

Creating Connections meets at the Henderson Center. Tried to get a group together. Has been in recovery for 4 ½ years. Very few recovery meetings. Tried an Arts in Recovery program and it never took off. Began a one-year trial at Creating Connections. 19-people at the first meeting. There was no place for families to go to heal. Family members now attend the meetings. They have an activity that brings the members together. Have had seven classes. 15-38 participants. Lunch is provided. It is a safe place. Have received over \$2313 in donations. There is a group that attend from Wytheville. The program is healing lives and making connections. Need \$1250 to cover the program for the

remainder of the year. The group meets at the Henderson Center. The dates and times are the second and fourth Tuesdays at Noon. Lunch is provided.

New Business:

- **No Meeting in October – October 9 is a state holiday (Columbus and Yorktown Victory Day)**
- Determine agenda for November 13, 2023 meeting
- Richard Keene resigned as vice-chair. Jennifer Helbert was nominated by Charles Stanley and seconded by Stan and unanimously approved as vice chair.

Wrap Up:

Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

None.

Sub-Committee Reports

Housing Committee/ Service Integration Committee/ Grants/Finance Committee
(Matt, Emma, Andy, Felisha, and Linda)

Employment Committee: (Jimmy with DARS, Mike with VEC)
None

Mentoring Committee/ Substance Abuse Committee: (Ruth, Teresa, Chris, Chuck)
None

Public Relations Committee: (Manuel)
None

Executive Committee: (Charles, Richard, Felisha and Chris).
None

Board: (Linda, Charles, Matt, Richard, Felisha, Jimmy, Chris and Emma)

Re-entry Updates

Local Coalition Updates

None

Next meeting – November 13, 2023: 2nd Monday

<http://www.highlandsgccc.org>

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The meeting adjourned at 10:26am.

If there is someone you would like for us to invite to a future meeting as either a guest or member, please let one of us know.

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Respectfully submitted,

Chris Austin
Secretary